

**Interpretationes
Herbarum Aliorumque Magicorum**

e papyro graeca magica XII

Interpretations

Which the Temple Scribes employed, from the Holy Writings, in translation. Because of the Curiosity of the Masses they [i.e., the scribes] inscribed the Names of the Herbs and Other Things which they employed on the Statues of the Gods, so that they [the masses], since they do not take Precaution, might not practice Magic, [being prevented] by the Consequence of their Misunderstanding. But we have collected the explanations from many Copies, all of them Secret.

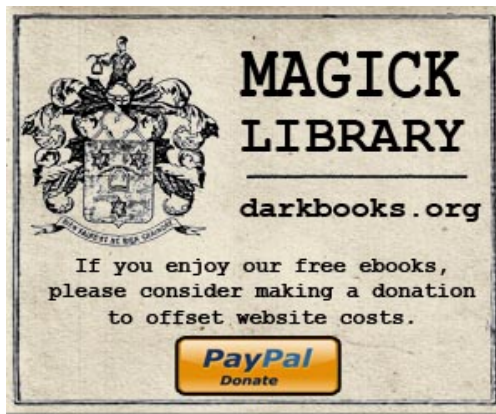
Here they are:

A Snake's Head: a Leech.
A Snake's Ball of Thread: this means Soapstone.
Blood of a Snake: Hematite.
A Bone of an Ibis: this is Buckthorn.
Blood of a Hyrax: truly of a Hyrax [probably the rock hyrax, *Procavia capensis*].
Tears [Sleep Sand] of a Hamadryas Baboon: Dill Juice.
Crocodile Dung: Ethiopian Soil.
Blood of a Hamadryas Baboon: Blood of a Spotted Gecko.
Lion Semen: Human Semen.
Blood of Hephaistos: Wormwood.
Hairs of a Hamadryas Baboon: Dill Seed.
Semen of Hermes: Dill.
Blood of Ares: Purslane.
Blood of an Eye: Tamarisk Gall.
Blood from a Shoulder: Bear's Breach [probably *Acanthus mollis* L. or *Helleborus foetidus* L.].
From the Loins: Camomile.
A Man's Bile: Turnip Sap [probably *Brassica napus* L.].
A Pig's Tail: Leopard's Bane [probably a variety of leopard's bane in the genus *Boronicum*, or one of the *heliotropes*].
A Physician's Bone: Sandstone.
Blood of Hestia: Camomile.
An Eagle: Wild Garlic [*Trigonella foenumgraecum*, but the reading is doubtful].
Blood of a Goose: A Mulberry Tree's Milk.
Kronos' Spice: Piglet's Milk.
A Lion's Hairs: Tongue of a Turnip [i.e., the leaves of the taproot].
Kronos' Blood: . . . of Cedar.
Semen of Helios: White Hellebore.
Semen of Herakles: this is Mustard-rocket [probably *Eruca sativa*].
A Titan's Blood: Wild Lettuce.
Blood from a Head: Lupine.
A Bull's Semen: Egg of a Blister Beetle.
A Hawk's Heart: Heart of Wormwood.
Semen of Hephaistos: This is Fleabane.
Semen of Ammon: Houseleek.
Semen of Ares: Clover.
Fat from a Head: Spurge.
From the Belly: Earth-apple.
From the Foot: Houseleek.
[PGM XII.401-44]

Notes

This list (slightly adapted) is from Hans Dieter Betz (ed.), *The Greek Magical Papyri in Translation including the Demotic Spells*, Univ. Chicago Press, 1986 167-169. Similar lists can be found in *De succedaneis* transmitted among the works of Galen, *Claudii Galeni Opera Omnia* (Kuhn, ed.), vol. 19, 721-47; adapted version in Paul of Aegina, *Paulus Aegineta, Corpus Medicorum Graecorum IX/2* (Heiberg, ed.), vol. II, 401-8; and in Dioscorides' *Materia Medica*.

-- John Opsopaus



Loved this book?

Other books that may be interesting to you:



Israel Regardie : "The Art Of True Healing"

Within every man and woman is a force which directs and controls the entire course of life. Properly used it can heal every affliction and ailment to which mankind is heir. Every single religion affirms this fact. All forms of mental or spiritual healing no matter under what name they travel promise the same thing. Even psychoanalysis employs this power though indirectly using the now popular word libido. For the critical... [>>>read more<<](#)



Anonymous : "Healing Gemstones And Crystals"

Healing Crystals and Gemstones are one of the most beautiful mystical and profound energy medicine tools which have been used for centuries throughout all cultures religions and empires. Crystals bring amazing benefits to the healing arena! This information is offered here as a service and is not meant to replace any medical treatment. No guarantee is made towards validity. Use this information at your own risk. This is my... [>>>read more<<](#)



Al Selden Leif : "Pagan Herbs By Use"

Herbs are used extensively in doing magick. In this book youll learn about Using Herbs in Your Magick Making Herbs properties and Their Magickal Uses. Herbs are used in many religions such as in Christianity myrrh Commiphora myrrha ague root Aletris farinosa and frankincense Boswellia spp and in the partially Christianized Anglo-Saxon pagan Nine Herbs Charm. In Hinduism a form of Basil called Tulsi is worshipped as a... [>>>read more<<](#)



Jaroslav Nemec : "Witchcraft And Medicine"

The National Library of Medicine extends thanks to the foNowing persons for their support in the preparation of this exhibit Copperthwnte Derek Research Director Dr. Gardner Museum of Witchcraft San Francisco California Graubard Mark. Ph.D. Professor Ementus and Chairman Natural Science and History of Science University of Minnesota Meyer F.G. Ph.D. The National Arboretum U.S. Department ofAgriculture Trueblood Emily Emmart... [>>>read more<<](#)